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(56) Documents cited

GB 1145115 GB 0404821

GB 0720922 GB 0269328

GB 0239416

GB 0238271

(58) Field of search

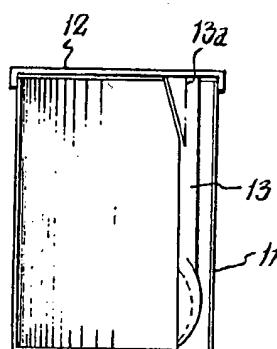
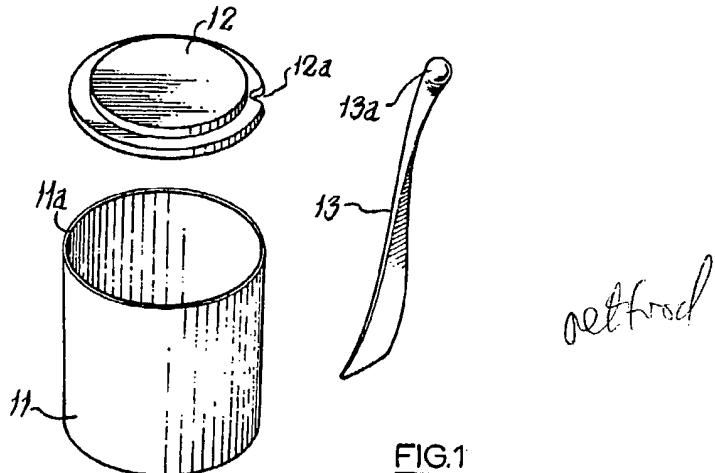
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(54) Combination lid and spoon

(57) A lid for canned foodstuff, particularly petfood, in combination with a spoon-like implement such that the spoon-like implement is either a) separate from the lid (Fig. 1) but retained upright in the can and projecting therefrom when said lid is applied to said can by the spoon-like implement passing through an aperture in the lid, or b) attached to the undersurface of the lid (Fig. 2) and thus positioned completely within the can when the lid is applied thereto.

The spoon-like implement can be a spoon, spatula or fork.



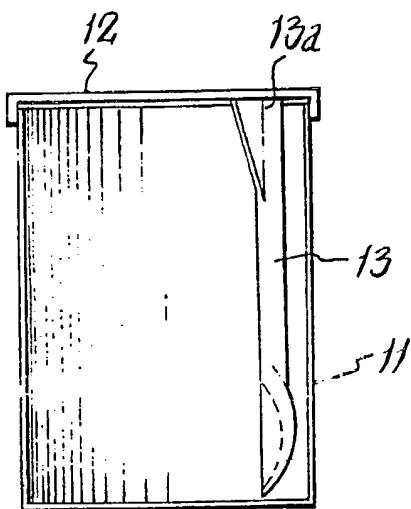
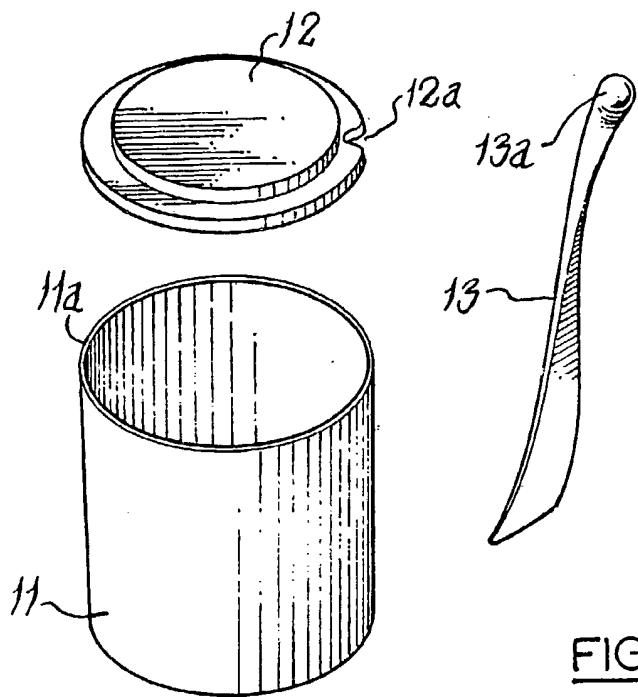
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The drawings originally filed were informal and the print here reproduced is taken from later filed formal copies.

The claims were filed later than the filing date within the period prescribed by Rule 25(1) of the Patents Rules 1982.

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SPECIFICATION

Combination lid and spoon

5 **THIS INVENTION** relates to canned foodstuffs such as petfoods where an opened can might be required to be kept with some of its contents, for example, where a pet will only require say half a can of food at one meal, the 10 remainder being left in the can which is stored in the refrigerator until the next meal-time.

The invention comprises a combination lid and spoon adapted for use with such canned foodstuffs, the lid being adapted to fit the opened top of the can and to accommodate the spoon at least partially inside the can.

The lid is preferably a snap fit on the can. The lid and spoon may be separate, the lid 20 having an opening through which the spoon handle can project above the lid while the spoon is mainly in the can—this very much after the fashion of conventional mustard pots.

25 The lid and spoon can be attached, on the other hand, and even formed integrally, the lid then forming a sort of handle for the spoon, which is completely inside the can when the lid is on the can.

30 The lid and spoon can be conveniently formed by moulding out of plastics material.

By "spoon" is, of course, to be understood any spoon-like implement including a spatular or even a fork or a simple blade with which 35 the can contents can be removed.

Embodiments of a combination lid and spoon according to the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

40 *Figure 1* is a perspective view of a first combination, and

Figure 2 is a section through a can with a second combination.

The drawings illustrate combination lid and spoon arrangements for use with canned foodstuffs to close an opened can 11 which is required to be kept with some of its contents remaining, the lid 12 being adapted to fit the opened top 11a of the can 11 and to accommodate the spoon 13 at least partially inside the can 11, but so that the spoon handle 13a does not contact the remaining can contents.

Fig. 1 illustrates an arrangement in which the lid 12 and spoon 13 are separate, the lid 55 12 having an opening 12a through which the spoon handle 13a can project above the lid 12 while the spoon 13 is mainly in the can 11.

Fig. 2 illustrates an arrangement in which 60 the lid 12 and spoon 13 are attached, the lid 12 forming a sort of handle for the spoon 13, which is completely inside the can 11 when the lid 12 is on the can 11.

In both arrangements the lid and spoon are 65 of moulded plastics material so that the lid is

a snap fit on the can.

CLAIMS

1. A combination lid and spoon adapted 70 for use with canned foodstuffs to close an opened can which is required to be kept with some of its contents remaining, the lid being adapted to fit the opened top of the can and to accommodate the spoon at least partially 75 inside the can, but so that the spoon handle does not contact the can contents.

2. A combination according to claim 1, of which the lid is a snap fit on the can.

3. A combination according to claim 1 or 80 claim 2, the lid and spoon being separate and the lid having an opening through which the spoon handle can project above the lid while the spoon is mainly in the can.

4. A combination according to claim 1 or 85 claim 2, the lid and spoon being attached, the lid forming a handle for the spoon, which is completely inside the can when the lid is on the can.

5. A combination lid and spoon substantially 90 as described herein with reference to and as illustrated by Fig. 1 or Fig. 2 of the accompanying drawings.

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